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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



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**imagery analysis report**

## **C-II SSGN Launch, Gorkiy Shipyard 112, USSR (S)**

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**IAR-A315/80**  
**NOVEMBER 1980**  
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## C-II SSGN LAUNCH, GORKIY SHIPYARD 112, USSR (S)

1. (S/D) The launch of a C-II SSGN (nuclear-powered cruise missile attack submarine) was confirmed at Gorkiy Shipyard 112 ( ) USSR, on imagery of ( ) when a C-II SSGN was at the fitting-out quay (Figure 1). This is the sixth C-II SSGN to be launched from Gorkiy. The submarine was not observed at Gorkiy on coverage of ( )

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2. (S/D) The production rate for the C-II SSGN prior to 1977 was one every other year. Victor-class SSNs (nuclear-powered attack submarine) were launched in years between C-II launches. Since 1977, the production rate for the C-II SSGN has increased to one per year. Since no Victor-class SSN has been launched here since 1977, it is probable that Victor-class SSN production has ended at Gorkiy.

3. (TSR) The departure of a unique auxiliary transporter dock, ARD(T), from the Severodvinsk complex on ( ) was the first indicator of an impending launch from Gorkiy. This ARD(T) Number 4 Type 2b, nicknamed the Spoonbill, is associated with Charlie-class SSGN deliveries from Gorkiy. After delivery of a C-II SSGN from Gorkiy in 1979, the ARD(T) wintered over at the Severodvinsk complex prior to an August departure. This ARD(T) was next observed at Gorkiy on ( ) and was back at Severodvinsk Naval Base West ( ) ( ) The C-II SSGN delivered in the ARD(T) was not observed until ( ) since the quay area where it was berthed was cloud covered on ( )

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to ( ) Soviet Strategic Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, ( )

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